



SHREVEPORT FIRE

D E P A R T M E N T

263 North Common Street, Shreveport, LA 71101
Phone: 318/673-6650 • FAX: 318:673-6656 www.shreveportfire.org
Scott Wolverton, Fire Chief

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Contact: Assistant to the Fire Chief, Fred Sanders

Office: 318-673-6652

Cell: 318-455-2411

SFD Offers July 4th Fireworks and Outdoor Cooking Safety Tips

Fireworks and outdoor cooking on the Fourth of July is synonymous with summer fun and celebrating Independence Day. Because of the inherent dangers of fireworks and unsafe cooking during this time of the year, the Shreveport Fire Department offers the following safety tips.

Fireworks Safety Tips:

- The best way to enjoy fireworks is to visit public fireworks displays put on by professionals who know how to safely handle fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- Fireworks should only be used outdoors, never light fireworks in doors or near dry grass.
- Avoid using homemade fireworks or illegal explosives: They can kill you.
- Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area; away from building and vehicles
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them into metal or glass containers. Light one firework at a time and quickly move away.
- A responsible adult should supervise all fireworks activities. NEVER give fireworks to children.
- Always have a hose, fire extinguisher or water bucket ready when using fireworks.
- Stand several feet away from lit fireworks. If a device does not go off, DO NOT stand over it to investigate it, put it out with water DO NOT pick it up.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials.

Outdoor Cooking Safety Tips:

- Keep grills at safe distance from houses and overhangs.

- Use only properly labeled starter fluid. NEVER substitute gasoline or kerosene for starter fluid.
- Never grill / barbeque in enclosed areas. Carbon monoxide could be produced.
- Do not wear loose clothing while cooking on barbeque grills.
- Supervise children around outdoor grills.
- Make sure everyone knows to stop, drop and roll in case their clothing catches fire.
- Be ready to extinguish flames. Use baking soda, a fire extinguisher, a bucket of sand or a garden hose should be nearby if you don't have an extinguisher.
- Don't allow anyone to conduct activity near the grill when in use. The grill body remains hot up to an hour after being used.
- Never attempt to move a hot grill. It's easy to stumble or drop it and serious burns could result.

For those who choose to purchase fireworks from local vendors, Fireworks for the Fourth of July start at noon on June 25 and ends at 10:00 pm on July 5. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge, ignite or explode fireworks in the city limits between the hours of 10:00 pm and 8:00 am.

The Shreveport Fire Department wants you to have a fun and safe Holiday. Please pass these safety tips to anyone and everyone you know. Enjoy your Holiday. ###

Fred Sanders
Assistant to the Fire Chief
Shreveport Fire Department
263 North Common
Shreveport, La. 71101